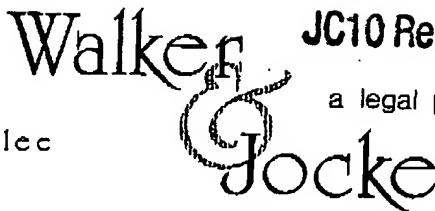


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FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION COVER SHEET

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FAX NUMBER: (703) 872-9306

DATE: June 17, 2005

SENDER: Christopher L. Parmelee, Esq.

FAX OF SENDER (330) 722-6446

In Re Application of: **Taferner, et al.**Docket: **Becker-1009 US**Serial No.: **U.S. National Phase of PCT/EP2003/011575**Confirm. No.: **Not known**371 Date: **June 17, 2005**For: **Gas Flushing Device For Metallurgical Melting Pots**

Sir:

Please find enclosed a preliminary amendment removing the multi-dependent portions of claims 17 and 18. Please amend the claims prior to calculating the filing fees for entering the national phase under 35 U.S.C. 371 as requested in Applicants' separately filed submission.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. L. L." or a similar variation.

Christopher L. Parmelee Reg. No. 42,980

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I hereby certify that this document and the documents indicated as enclosed herewith are being sent by facsimile transmission to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office this 20th day of June, 2005.

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330 • 722 • 6446

FACSIMILE

clp@walkerandjocke.com

E-MAIL

330 • 721 • 0000
MEDINA330 • 225 • 1669
CLEVELAND

231 South Broadway, Medina, Ohio U.S.A. 44256-2601

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BECKER 1009 US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:
Taferner, et al.Serial No.: National Phase of
PCT/EP2003/011575

Filed: June 17, 2005

For: GAS FLUSHING DEVICE FOR
METALLURGICAL MELTING POTS)

Art Unit: (Unknown)

Patent Examiner:
(Unknown)Mail Stop PCT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Kindly enter the following amendment before calculating the extra claim fees for the U.S. National Stage.